

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

US Consumers are already severely limited insofar as they cannot play dvds with region 2 (or 3 thru 6) encoding. Many dvds released in the UK are unusable as a result and that is a shame.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? We have numerous computers in our house, an ethernet network and a wireless network. Limiting transmission of files would definitely be a nuisance.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

This is already a headache. I can create dvd-rs on my computer but can't play them on my dvd player.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

It's not their intent, but it inevitably would be the result.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

As usual, the primary client will pay for the few bad apples.

Other Comments:

It's true that illegal copying costs the industry money. If we ignore China and other such countries, what you have is the biggest consumers of such products are making copies for friends. Most such people give up this practice as their incomes rise. Conversely, if the product is priced reasonably low most everyone will pay.